

December 2023

VOLUME 65, No. 11
www.ElZagal.org



CAMEL Tales

SEASONS
Greetings

FROM ALL OF US AT
El Zagal



Potentate Roger Ellsworth
& Lady Sue



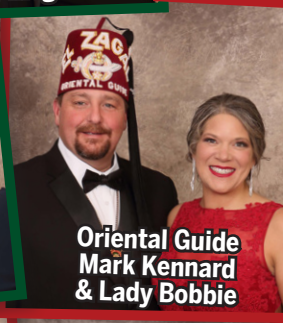
Chief Rabban
Travis Will &
Lady Meghan



Asst. Rabban Chad
Decker & Lady Kate



High Priest and Prophet
Bruce Ridgway &
Lady Kim



Oriental Guide
Mark Kennard
& Lady Bobbie



1st Ceremonial Master
Shane Heiberg &
Lady Jandi



2nd Ceremonial Master
Casey Schoer & Lady Gretchen



Recorder
Bob Wedberg Jr. PP



Treasurer
Jason Rockswold PP
& Lady Tiffani



Director Blake Wrigley
PP & Lady Cathie



Chief of Staff
Jeff Woods &
Lady Vickie



Membership Chairman
Russell Schell
& Lady Lisa

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TUESDAY BURGER UNIT SCHEDULE

5:30PM - 7PM

DECEMBER 5 EMP

DECEMBER 12 DIRECTOR STAFF

DECEMBER 19 MISFITS

**DECEMBER 26 NO BURGERS
(MERRY CHRISTMAS)**

JANUARY 2 EMP

JANUARY 9 MISFITS

JANUARY 16 DIRECTOR STAFF

JANUARY 23 PROVOST

JANUARY 30 ARAB PATROL

FEBRUARY 6 EMP

El Zagal Camel Tales

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Roger Ellsworth.....Potentate
Travis Will.....Chief Rabban
Chad Decker.....Asst. Rabban
Bruce Ridgway.....High Priest & Prophet
Mark Kennard.....Oriental Guide
Jason "Rocky" Rockwold, PP.....Treasurer
Bob Wedberg, PP.....Recorder

Appointive

Shane Heiberg.....1st CM
Casey Schoer.....2nd CM
Blake "Ringo" Wrigley, PP.....Director
Jeff Woods.....Chief of Staff

Membership

Russell Schell 701-353-9250
russell@rjenergysolutions.com

HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVES

Ken Leggate.....Dickinson 701-483-1681
Garret Njos.....Bismarck 701-426-3557
Cal Braun.....Fargo 701-793-6586
Paul Witthauer.....Jamestown 701-320-5433
Lonnie Stippich.....Hettinger 701-567-2664
Dean Anderson.....Gwinner 701-678-2695
Gary Grindall.....Detroit Lakes 218-234-0821
Jim Hildebrant.....Valley City 701-840-1056

CAMEL TALES DEADLINE 18TH OF EACH MONTH

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cametales@elzagal.org

Editor
Jon Juelich

Publisher/Creative Editor
J&M Companies

POTENTATE'S MESSAGE

Get Back to Gold in 2023

Season's Greetings to all Nobles and Ladies. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. As we wrap up 2023, I would like to wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! This year has flown by like no other. I can't thank everyone at El Zagal enough. The support for the last twelve months has been great. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as your Potentate for 2023. Thank you! It has been a pleasure to work with Andrea and Patricia, without them we could not have accomplished everything we got done this year. They both are very dedicated and work hard at making El Zagal great.



It is also amazing to me how fast seven years have gone by. From the day Illustrious Sir Blake Wrigley asked me to consider being on the Divan to now, it blows me away. The years have passed but the memories and friendships will be here forever. I can't thank all of the Past Potentates and the current Divan enough for all the support throughout the years. And a special thank you to all the Ladies, and my Lady Sue. Without your support and dedication, we could not do what we do for our philanthropy, and Shriners Children's.

It has given me a never-ending joy this year to honor two of the greatest men I have ever met. At the Spring Ceremonial in Medora, we were able to recognize Illustrious Sir Howard Wrigley, PP and Illustrious Sir Blake Wrigley, PP. As most of you know "Ringo" is one of the finest Shriners you will ever meet. He has done so much for El Zagal and helped me more than anyone knows. I can't thank him enough. Also, at the Fall Ceremonial, we honored Illustrious Sir Bob Wedberg, PP & PGM. This man is truly the foundation and the backbone of our Temple. Bob has been my source for all the things behind the scenes and through the daily business. I am so proud to be able to call these two gentlemen my friends. My Fez is off to both of you. Thank you, Ringo and Bob.

I have many more people to thank, 2023 has been a great year. The Directors Staff has given 100% and has made the year so great. Thanks guys and to your ladies for everything you have done. Lastly (for now) our editor for this publication, Jon Juelich, has stepped up this year and taken over the Camel Tales. In addition to that, started EZ in a Minute, our Monday morning memo, what a great addition to El Zagal. Thank you, Jon, for all you do.

Looking forward to next year and the years to come. It is my hope and goal to keep El Zagal going. Membership has to be a priority. Not only finding and getting new Shriners but keeping the great Nobles we have. Please get involved with your Temple, Units, and Clubs.

I hope to see a great turnout at the Annual Meeting and Annual Banquet. Please get signed up and make reservations ASAP. Our "Parade to Glory" is the event of the year. It is a great night to reflect on our hard work for El Zagal, Shriners International, and Shriners Children's. I am also looking forward to welcoming our 2024 Potentate Travis Will and Lady Meghan.

Safe Travels!
Yours in Faith,
Roger Ellsworth
2023 Potentate



Official Call



The annual stated meeting of El Zagal Temple will be held on
Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 9am
at El Zagal Shrine Center.

The purpose of this meeting is as follows:
To conduct any business properly brought before the chair.
Please wear your fez.

Attest William R Wedberg Jr. PP, Recorder

Yours in faith, Roger Ellsworth, Potentate.

Thank you!
FOR YOUR
MEMBERSHIP

*Please accept our sincerest
appreciation for your
dedication to El Zagal Shrine
and your Masonic Lodges.*

25 year members

Wayne D Anderson	West Fargo	ND
Stephen J Blanchard	Osage	MN
Terry J Braun	Battle Lake	MN
Christopher Douthit	Grand Forks	ND
Lynn R Johnson	West Fargo	ND
Norman H Leslie	Fargo	ND
Jerome Messerschmidt	Fargo	ND
Paul Meszaros	Detroit Lakes	MN
Eric Moritz	Mandan	ND
Timothy L Moritz	Bismarck	ND
Chester F Nettetstad	Pelican Rapids	MN
Craig Richards	Fargo	ND
Craig Schroeder	Fargo	ND
Mark R Sheils	Fargo	ND
Daniel W Thompson	Fargo	ND
Scotty Uhrich	Glyndon	MN
James A Boatman	Jamestown	ND
Timothy J Dawson	Bismarck	ND
Randy D Gilbraith	Fargo	ND
Terry L Harris	Mandan	ND
Arlie Lind	Jamestown	ND
Daniel L Oschner	Saint Cloud	MN
Bruce H Ridgway	Fargo	ND
Keith Winks	Bismarck	ND

35 year members/Life Members

J Stephen Blazek	Fargo	ND
Ward C Gillet	Fargo	ND
Perry B Kimble	Linton	ND
David L Kluge	Hankinson	ND
Perry W Kolnes	Hillsboro	ND
Robert J Kuklok	West Fargo	ND
Alan L Malm	Flasher	ND
Clyde A Willman, Jr.	Rochester	MN
Keith E Wills	Fargo	ND
Gregory Zietz	Bismarck	ND
Duane R Dunn	Jamestown	ND
Roy M Estes, Jr.	San Tan Valley	AZ
Gordon G Gerbig	Amidon	ND
Greg Glur	Fargo	ND
Duane L Heckaman	Dickinson	ND
Rodney J Kostelecky	Dickinson	ND
Terrance R Kristensen	Bismarck	ND
Vernon Kroshus	Fargo	ND
Rodney B Lindstrom	Fargo	ND
Dwight R Pladsen	Fargo	ND
Wayne E Ruzicka	Wilton	ND
Wesley D Schuhrke	Dickinson	ND
Michael W Trythall	Bismarck	ND

50 year members

Edward A McConnell	Cassellton	ND
Stanton T Rambough	Hazen	ND
David B Rott, PP	Fargo	ND
Thomas E Sunderland	Mesa	AZ
Martin R Bless	Bismarck	ND
Ronald O Bowman	Clearwater	FL
Delbert W Perry	Mandan	ND
Monte Routledge, PP	Fargo	ND
Donald J Sorge	Washburn	ND

60 year members

Carroll T Juven	Fargo	ND
Berkely B Strothman, PP	Bismarck	ND
Paul T Larson, PP	Lisbon	ND
Lynn D Thompson, PP	Dent	MN



Mark Your Calendar!

Christmas Night Party	Dec 12
Kids Christmas Party	Dec 16
Vendor & Craft Show	Dec 16
Roast the Pote	Jan 5
Annual Meeting	Jan 6



**TUESDAY
BURGERS
5:30PM TO 7PM**

Ladies Auxiliary

Reminder of the Ladies luncheon on December 2, 2023 at 11:30.

There is no regular meeting in January. The next regular meeting is February 10 at 10.00.

Mary Krinke, Sec.



East-West Shrine Bowl!

Ford Center at the Star - Frisco, Texas



You're invited to join the

2024 El Zagal Shrine Trip

with Travis & Meghan Will

January 31 – February 3, 2024

This 4-day, 3-night trip includes:

- 3 nights Residence Inn Hotel, Frisco
- 3 Breakfasts
- Airport Transfers
- East – West Shrine Bowl Ticket
- Pre-game Events
- Dallas Tours
- Local Sightseeing & Experiences

Package Price

\$879.⁰⁰ per person

(Double Occupancy; land only)

Limited Space Available! Final Payment due by November 30, 2023!

For further information, or to reserve your spot, contact:

Micki Downey (408) 482-9023
micki@starandcompass.com



CST #2081830-40

Shrine Bowl

Hello all,

Hopefully by now you have heard that Lady Meghan and I have lined up Star and Compass Travel to help put together a trip to the National East West Shrine Bowl Game in Frisco, TX January 31-February 3! Even though we are still a few months away from the trip, we are working diligently to get deposits in for anyone that is thinking of attending. We are pushing early registration not only for hotel bookings, (in case we need to make the room-block larger), but also for game tickets! The travel agent has purchased 20 seats in the second row and there are only a couple seats left there. When these fill up, we will start a new group seating. Please take the time to fill out the flier and send in your deposit to Micki at Star and Compass if you are thinking of attending. She has some tours of the JFK area lined up and possibly a distillery stop along with other things!

Also, please note, you do not need to be a Shriner to attend this trip. If you know a football fan that would enjoy coming with, please share with them!

Sincerely,
Travis Will
El Zagal Shrine
Chief Rabban
Mobil 701-220-0453
Travis@capitalscaleco.com

EL Zagal Dusters

This is my last article as Duster President. My subjects rose up in a coup d'etat and I have been exiled. Paul Wilkins is the new President. The halcyon times of yore are at hand. Hip Hip, Hooray! The wind beneath his wings, our Vice President, will be Rick Kramlich. Bob Bartosh will continue to do all the work as Secretary/Treasurer.


Travis Will is going to be the new Pote and he is a Duster. The Dusters have been planning for his term and the events will be top notch! The Dusters will be showing up in force to support him at events. Please make every effort to support him and our El Zagal Shrine in the upcoming year. This is the perfect time to bring new members into the Shrine because the Travis and the Dusters are going to make this an extra special year.

There is lots going on with the Annual Meeting and Roast the Pote on January 5 and 6, the Pote's trip to Frisco, Texas at the end of January, the Duster Car Show at the beginning of March, and the Circus in April. There are plenty of opportunities to get out and have a good time while raising money for children.

When they exiled, me they could have sent me to some island with friendly indigenous natives who make an excellent rum punch, but here I am in the bar at St. Anthony drinking tap beer with clam and tomato juice in it. I would not have it any other way!

Tim Dawson

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Director's Staff

Happy Holidays

Wishing you All a great Holiday Season from the Director's Staff.

It's been another busy year for the D.S. We have had some great and successful events in 2023 with our 5K/Suds-N-Spuds, Hole-In-One Challenge, Fall Motorcycle Ride and Pizza Puzzles & Beverages, not to mention the full summer of motorcycle practice and competition at MSA. Thank you to Illustrious Sir Roger Ellsworth and Lady Sue for a great 2023, we appreciate all you have done for El Zagal.

As always, make sure to support all the Units and Clubs of El Zagal.

Salute,
Casey Schoer

Jamestown Clowns

Hello to All Nobles and Ladies,

Forgive me, I missed October. Busy I guess. Sorry

We had a marvelous Pumpkin Patch in 2023, Another Clown success! All those who helped a lot, or just helped when they could, are very appreciated. Pat yourselves on the back.

Days are short now, although they are still 24hrs. It seems like they are 12hrs. Does Daylight Savings Time really save time, how much time can be saved? And if it is saved, where is it kept?? All good questions. They will require time.....

Hopefully the weather is warm and there is very little snow as you read this, Roads are dry, and of course---no or little wind.

We need a great turn out for the Holiday Dazzle Parade! Get Clowned Up, and Parade!!!!!! It is always a fun Parade, be there or be square.

December 2, 2023, is Clown for a Night. Another huge event for us. A huge turnout is a must for an event of this magnitude, the community is waiting. We need a great event. It might be easier, if that night was not so infamous in the history of Parties in Jamestown.

I'm sure e-mails will be out for events. Fluff should be awarded a gold star, for all the forwards and info that he (shares). That has to be a time-consuming responsibility. WE ALL THANK YOU, Fluff.

Truman's reign is coming to an end, he probably will be relieved, and we, Clowns will once again be free of control and domination. Can't wait for the new guy, until then, mayhem...

Happy Thanksgiving, and Merry Christmas to all!!!!!!

Thanks For Reading This.....Wheezer..

Jamestown Mystics

Hello everyone in El Zagal, hope all is well. Writing the last newsletter of the year. It's (now) one week until Thanksgiving. I know this year was a whirlwind. I am thankful for being part of The El Zagal Mystics. As we went over the annual giving, we had another successful year, and the total was another Grand Slam. Proud of everyone.

I want to thank the bean counter (Scrappy) for getting about 98% of 2024 dues collected. Thanks, Brother.

The Gun raffle committee has selected the guns for the 2024-gun raffle. Tickets should be ready for purchase by the Annual meeting (be ready to try your luck).

FFAC committee is still brainstorming for prizes for 2024 raffle ticket.

The Executive Committee has made a recommendation for Officers for 2024 and the unit has approved them. The Fridge (Colin W.) will be leading the troops in 2024 and I know he'll do a great job (we got your back brother).

It's that time of year again and the Lights are shining Bright on Shriner Hill. If you haven't seen the lights on Shriner Hill, It's worth the trip! Thanks to the lights committee for making sure the lights are bright.

President Brock and 1st Lady are planning our annual Christmas party (can't wait). It's always a great time. I want to thank Brock for another great year.

I hope everyone can celebrate with family and loved ones over the holiday season. That's all for now.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from The El Zagal Mystics
Howard Weispenning



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**2024 El Zagal Shrine
Annual Meeting, Banquet, and Parade to Glory
Saturday January 6th**

8:00 am. All Nobles Breakfast: Hosted by the Yoshi – El Zagal Lower Level

8:30 am. Camel Herders/Membership meeting

8:30 am. Hospital Dads and Hospital Rep Meetings: Upper level

9:00 am Annual Meeting -El Zagal Main Level

Lunch after Meeting for Nobels hosted by The Dusters in Upper Level

****Ladies Bubbles and Brunch at 11:00am** for those that want to attend!

Lower Level of El Zagal. \$15/lady at the door

Have your lady RSVP to info@elzagal.org or call El Zagal at 701-235-7521 by December 29th

**Banquet and Parade to Glory at the
Courtyard by Marriott**

5:00 Social with El Zagal **Imperial band** playing.

6:00 Dinner

Parade to Glory

8:30 Dancing to “The Train Wrecks” sponsored by **The Bismarck Dusters!!**

\$75/adult \$20/child

Formal/Semi Formal attire requested.

Rooms are being held under “El Zagal” until December 18th.

Please call 218-284-1000 to reserve your room at the rate of \$129.00/night.

Courtyard by Marriott

1080 28th Avenue South

Moorhead, MN 56560

**Send payment along with meal choice from below to Andrea at El Zagal
no later than December 18th:**

****Register through your Unit if possible****

Choice of meal:

Chicken Cordon Blue x _____ Stuffed Pork Chops x _____

Childrens Chicken Strips x _____

Wild Game Feed 2024 February 17th

It is that time of year again. The leaves are changing, the wind is getting brisk, and we are looking forward to all things fall. "All things fall" means fishing is wrapped up for the time being until ice forms and hunting season is here. This brings me to the point of the article. The Wild Game Feed is quickly approaching. Mark your calendars for February 17th, 2024. The event will be from 5-9 as usual. This is a HUGE temple wide fundraiser, and your help is needed. How can I help you say? Well, there are many ways. As always, we will ask each unit and club to donate a gun to be given away and are also asking that members of your unit run the game that gives your gun away. We also need help in many other ways. We need manpower in general. Please come and help us in any capacity you can. This can be in food or games. As they say, many hands make light work. Do you have a great wild game recipe that you think will be a hit? Let's talk about it and see if we can incorporate it into the event. We would even love it better if you took on the challenge of preparing the dish for the event. You don't have a recipe you say? Well, come and help prep the week leading up to the event. We need people to help prepare the food and the more people we have the faster it is. You may just have some fun in the process! You can't make the event? We need all kinds of wild game to make this a success. Please donate game meat. Large or small quantities are all helpful. We are looking for venison, moose, elk, pheasant, boar, antelope, duck, northern pike, walleye, etc. If you have something exotic, reach out. We would love to make a dish with something different.

Meetings will be held as needed and will become more often the closer it gets to the event. Watch for emails as I will have Andrea send out emails regarding the meetings. Please put the Wild Game Feed on your meeting agenda to discuss how your unit or club can help. If you have any questions, or have meat or fish to donate, please reach out to me at 701-238-3573 or m.f.hennebry@gmail.com.

**Best Regards,
Mike Hennebry**



WILD GAME FEED 2024 FEBRUARY 17TH



**CALLING ALL NOBLES AND LADIES. WE ARE LOOKING FOR
DONATIONS AND PEOPLE TO HELP WITH ONE OF THE
YEAR'S FINEST TASTING TEMPLE FUND RAISERS.**

MEETINGS WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 30TH AT 6 PM



NOVEMBER 30TH @ 6PM

DECEMBER 14TH @ 6PM

DECEMBER 28TH @ 6PM

JANUARY 11TH @ 6PM

JANUARY 25TH @ 6PM

FEBRUARY 7TH @ 6PM



PREP WEEK IS FEBRUARY 11TH - 16TH.

**Please put the Wild Game Feed on your unit or club's agenda and attend the
WGF meetings. Each year we ask units and clubs to donate a raffle item,
remember to discuss at your next meeting.**

**Contact Mike Hennebry at m.f.hennebry@gmail.com or 701-238-3573 with
donations of wild game, raffle items, volunteering or tickets.**

Bison - Elk - Moose - Pickled Fish - Pheasant - Goose - Venison - and a lot more!

Color Guard Croonings

As the leaves begin to fall in Color Guard land, we see the semi - annual migration of all our snowbirds. It leaves the Color Guard club rooms a bit quiet and leaves a lot more "stuff" in inventory at the bar - if you know what I mean.

It is entirely possible that Jerome Tappe left back in May, since no one had seen him all summer. The remainder of the crew will follow this month, leaving only the true Minnesotan's back here to carry the flags!

Word around town is that there may be a new virtual golf facility opening soon in the lakes area. Richards Golf Emporium and Wood Working Shop is almost set for a grand opening. Lady Barb takes it all in stride, as she doesn't have to pay for hubby day care when Brad is working on a project. Complete with an indoor pool, helipad on the roof, and its very own liquor license, it may be the new place to be. Brad, never to be sold short, has been busy selling memberships. Watch your wallets!

Of course, while these Nobles are gone, they don't

waste time golfing or going to happy hours. In fact, our very own Father Jerry has started giving classes on getting another person's attention in conversations. It's a real face slapper of a class I hear. Paul "Little Lars" Meszaros has taken the class several times. You see, Paul is a bit of a slow learner.....

Love is in the air in Color Guard land too, as Greg and Sue Neisen plan to tie the knot in south Texas in November. You see, Greg is a bit on the cheap side, and rather than mail out invitations, he talked Lady Sue into getting married on the beach in south Texas, where there will surely be a crowd of people - of course they are just walking through, but Greg did promise Sue a big crowd at the wedding!

As his term comes up as President, we were informed at the last Color Guard meeting that Harold "Happy" Holt just finished reading a book called "The Art Of Being President", written by Ronald Frump. Happy claims that the last nomination round was rigged, and that he should be President again. Stay tuned for details!

One office that needs a recall is the office of Liquorian. Our tag team of Randy and Brikker rarely come to the club, but the liquor bills keep growing. We have our chief investigator Gilligan Bennett on the case, to try to uncover the issues. Speaking of uncovering, word has it that Gilligan has a new date. Could this be true? Ask him!

Of course, we are still working on building a driving team for the sprint cars. We have spent numerous hours interviewing candidates. It is surprising how many guys in the lakes area don't have a driver's license! Of course, I am kidding - kind of.

As always, we would welcome your visit to the Color Guard for a meeting, which is held on the 3rd Monday of each month. Always fun, food and fellowship, and maybe a bit of foolishness too! It's a great time to be a Shriner, but there is NOTHING FINER THAN A COLOR GUARD SHRINER!

Remember to trim your bushes!

Lars



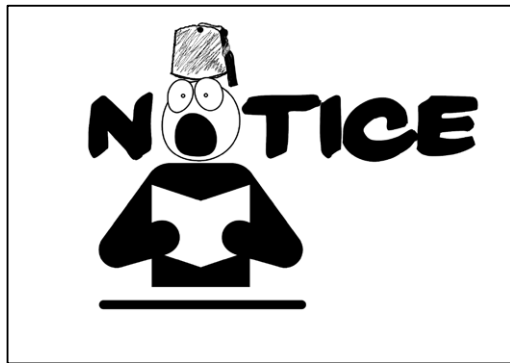
SAVE THE DATE

Kids CHRISTMAS PARTY

lots of Fun Games, Crafts and Treats

Santa will be there!

DECEMBER 16 | 11AM TO 1PM
EL ZAGAL SHRINE
1429 3RD ST N
FARGO, ND



We have made the difficult decision to add a 4% surcharge to all credit card transactions taken by the Administration at El Zagal.

In order for incoming funds to go where they can best benefit our philanthropy, we need to continue to remain vigilant in the overhead costs of doing business.

Tickets for all kinds of events get paid for with credit cards, and up until now the Administration Budget has absorbed the fees of around \$1500 a year.

The Administration credit card machine is currently used to process many transactions. For example:

- Dues
- Circus (bike pages, plaques, tickets, ads)
- Event Registrations (you name it, and we have probably processed a card or two)

We are happy to continue accepting credit cards with this fee or as always we will happily accept checks and cash.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.
 El Zagal Divan

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New! El Zagal is now renting space to Post 2 American Legion Baseball for electronic slot machines in the Arabian Room. Come, try your luck and support Legion Baseball and your Shrine!



Jamestown Public Schools Food Pantry received a pay it back donation of over \$6,000 from the following - Jamestown Masonic Lodge, Jamestown El Zagal Shrine, Clowns, Jamestown El Zagal Mystics, James Valley Shrine Club and Jamestown Shrine Club EZ Wheels. They all wish you a very Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

El Zagal Camel Tales Submissions:

- To help insure accurate information, please include all names and locations of photos submitted.
- Submission deadline for Camel Tales is the 18th of each month prior.
- Submissions for EZ in a Minute can be made any time. Please allow 1 to 2 weeks for publication. .jpg or .gif preferred.
- To subscribe & unsubscribe, go to www.elzagal.org/ez-in-a-minute
- Please continue to send all submissions to cameltales@elzagal.org



Ritualistic Divan Form Caravan To Visit El Riad Shrine for Ceremonial

Nobles from El Zagal Ritualistic Divan form a caravan to pilgrimage across the "not so hot" plains of the Dakota Territory to visit our brother nobles at El Riad Shrine in Sioux Falls, SD for their 2023 Fall Ceremonial. The road was long and treacherous, fraught with many hazards, but thankfully the burning sun of our plains was bright and there was no snow or ice impeding our travels.

Four RD nobles planned to pilgrimage to El Riad Shrine to witness the "Arch Degree" presentation for their new nobles and ladies. El Zagal's Potentate Roger E. and 2nd Ceremonial Master Casey S. expressed an interest and desire this past winter to offer the presentation to our El Zagal nobles and their ladies since it does such a nice job explaining the connections to Freemasonry and its other appendant bodies. We jumped into action to serve the request of our Illustrious leader and enrich our nobles ceremonial experience.

Unfortunately, due to life & work, only two El Zagal RD nobles were able to pilgrimage. Nathan H. & Steven R., on Nov. 4th, left Fargo at 6:00 am Sat. morning hoping to arrive at the gates of El Riad in time for the opening of its Temple. They arrived with time to spare and were met with welcoming arms into their humble Oasis. Many

thanks to El Riad Shrine's Illustrious Potentate Leo Baumgart, El Riad Divan, and all Temple nobles for welcoming us in and making the day very pleasant.

We were allowed to video record their impressive ritual performance and "Arch Degree" presentation for the purpose of improving our candidates' experiences and asked that we not share the performance outside our El Zagal Shrine. We were more than happy to accept their request for the opportunity to document their exceptional performance to share with the rest of our Ritualistic Divan unit members.

Seven hours of travel for seven hours of social made for a long day but well worth the trip in my book. I look forward to visiting El Riad Shrine in the future and encourage all nobles to visit other Temples when the opportunity arises.

Steven Reinhold
2024 President



ROAST THE POTE

January 5, 7pm

@ El Zagal Temple



Now after 12 months, all are welcome to help Roger on his way.

Just like in a fairytale ...Far, Far Away...

Social 6:00pm

Program 7:00pm

ALL Nobles & Ladies Welcome



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2024 CASH CALENDAR

365 Chances of WINNING!

\$16,400 in Cash Prizes!

(ONLY 4,000 CALENDARS PRINTED)

\$25 Daily (Monday through Saturday)

\$100 Every Sunday – Plus Special Prizes!

\$300 On the 3rd Tuesday of EVERY MONTH!

• Calendars cost \$20.

• You CAN win more than once.

• Drawings are made randomly and prizes mailed monthly.

• It is the responsibility of the purchaser to notify El Zagal Shriners of any change of address in the year 2024.

• Proceeds are for the benefit of El Zagal Shrine activities.

• Payments are not deductible as charitable donations.

• No restrictions on members buying calendars.



Your Cash Calendar

Cash Calendar
2024

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Noble _____ Sold by: Unit/Club _____

Return this card with payment.

Are you aware that the 2024 cash calendars have been delivered? Some Nobles and Units are already out pounding the concrete selling calendars and helping their UNITS AND CLUBS raise funds-that's right, I said UNITS AND CLUBS!

In case you haven't heard, there will be a kickback to ALL Units and Clubs that sell a minimum of 100 cash calendars for 2024.

This is a huge win across all El Zagal "Shrinedom" compared to the 1st-3rd place prizes for units in the past couple years, as it gives all units a more even playing field to raise funds.

Cash payouts are as follows:

\$2.00 a calendar if your unit sells over 100 calendars (If a Unit sells 100 to 300 calendars that would make the Unit \$2.00 per calendar earning them up to \$600)

\$4.00 a calendar if your unit sells over 300 calendars (If a Unit sells 301 to 500, they will jump to \$4.00 per calendar earning the unit up to \$2000)

\$5.00 a calendar if your unit sells over 500 calendars (After selling 501 calendars the earning goes to \$5.00 per calendar so at 501 calendars, the unit/club would earn \$2505)

If I were you I would grab some calendars from your Unit President and help raise funds for next year. The best news yet – there is no cap on unit sales, keep selling until inventory runs out!

What did you say, you don't have a favorite unit? Contact me and I can help you with an idea or two 😊.

Happy selling,
Travis Will
Chief Rabban

Membership Hits Big Milestone

**FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DECADES,
FRATERNITY POSTS POSITIVE GROWTH**



Everyone knows Shriners love to have a party. Here's a big reason to celebrate: Six months of overall positive membership growth for the fraternity, with 85 temples posting positive membership growth.



JUST BEFORE IMPERIAL SESSION BEGAN, the fraternity achieved something members have been working toward for a very long time. From January to June 2023, there was overall net membership growth.

The last time we know that this achievement was confirmed, the year was 1995. DVDs had just been invented, football star Joe Montana announced his retirement, and *Forrest Gump* won an Oscar for Best Picture.

Shriners have come a long way since then. How did they do it?

By remembering who they are as Shrine Masons, by intentionally putting in the work, and by giving one another unwavering support.

Hitting this incredible milestone is tangible proof of something Shriners have always known: Good men are hungry to incorporate more fun and fellowship into their lives. They value meaningful connections with other people, and they long to be a part of something greater than themselves.

They are finding all of this with us, as Shriners.

The fraternity has keyed in on several areas where it is uniquely positioned to provide value to busy members, prospective members and their families. Here are just a few:

Events and activities

Shriners International and local temples have focused heavily on the concepts of generational investment and "building your own experience," encouraging Nobles to create new avenues for enjoying fun and fellowship and supporting their ideas by providing resources. In this way, the fraternity is showing it can and will meet members where they are and help them get to where they want to be.

In 2022, Nobles across Shrinedom created more than 110 new clubs and units. That is a huge win for Shriners looking for a new spark in the fraternity. In addition, the fraternity added nearly 400 new leaders age 45 and under last year, serving on their temple's Divan and as club and unit officers. This is a win for temples now, but more importantly, these younger men have the potential to position Shriners for success for years to come.

Education and development

The Noble Academy was founded in 2020 to help aspiring and experienced leaders learn and use best practices in running their Shrine and Masonic organizations. The response to this investment, which serves the fraternity and the greater Masonic community, including both men and women with affiliated, appendant and allied bodies, has been notable.

So far the Noble Academy, which is supported by the Shriners International Education Foundation, has presented 12 virtual events featuring 21 seminars, with more than 7,700 total participants representing 29 countries and 14 appendant, allied and concordant bodies. Featuring subject matter experts presenting on a range of topics relevant to fraternity members and their families, the events also provide an opportunity to make friends, share ideas and build relationships.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 2024

Jan 2 – Burgers
Jan 5 – Roast the Pote
Jan 6 – Annual Meeting
Jan 9 – Burgers
Jan 16 – Burgers
Jan 23 – Burgers
Jan 26 – Annual Banquet
Jan 27 – Boy Scout Pancake Feed
Jan 30 – Burgers

February 2024

Feb 1 – National Shrine Bowl Game
Feb 2 – Masonic Masquerade Ball



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 2023					1	2
3	4	5 Tuesday Burgers	6 Pote's Trip	7 Pote's Trip	8 Pote's Trip	9 Pote's Trip
10 Pote's Trip	11 Pote's Trip	12 Tuesday Burgers	13	14	15	16 Kids Christmas Party
17	18	19 Tuesday Burgers	20 Pizza, Puzzles & Beer	21 Office Closed	22 Office Closed	23
24	25 Merry Christmas! Office Closed	26 No Burgers	27	28	29	30
31						



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